

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed April 10, 2008, claims 10, 12, 14, and 18 were rejected and claims 15, 16, and 19 were objected to. In response, Applicants have amended claim 14, canceled claims 10, 12, and 15, and added new claims 20 and 21. Applicants hereby request reconsideration of the application in view of the amended claim, the new claims, and the below-provided remarks.

For reference, claims 18 – 20 have been renumbered as claims 17 – 19 because claim number 17 was inadvertently skipped.

Additionally, the specification has been amended to remove the references to claim numbers. In particular, paragraphs [0011] – [0019], as published in Publ. No. 2007/0164814, have been amended to remove the references to claim numbers.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 9, 11, 13, and 20 (now 19) were allowed. Additionally, claims 15, 16, and 19 (now 18) were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Claim Rejections

Claims 10, 12, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by French et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,825,726, hereinafter French). Additionally, claim 18 (now 17) was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(e) as being unpatentable over French. Claims 10 and 12 have been canceled and Applicants respectfully submit that claim is patentable over French for the reasons provided below.

Independent Claim 14

Claim 14 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 15. Because claim 15 is indicated to have allowable subject matter, Applicants assert that amended claim 14 is in allowable condition.

New Claim 20

New claim 20 includes the limitations of claims 14 and 16 as previously presented. Because claim 16 is indicated to have allowable subject matter, Applicants assert that new claim 20 is in allowable condition.

New Claim 21

New claim 21 includes the limitations of claims 14 and 3 as previously presented. Because claim 3 is indicated to have allowable subject matter, Applicants assert that new claim 21 is in allowable condition.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments, the new claims, and the remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account **50-3444** pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees to Deposit Account **50-3444** under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21.

Respectfully submitted,

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